

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 19, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Response, claims 1, 3, 7-8, 11, 13, 16-17, 19, 21, and 24 have been amended, and added new claim 27, to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added. Support for the above amendments and the new claim is provided in the Specification in at least paragraphs [0020], [0030], [0032], and [0034]. Accordingly, claims 1-27 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 11, 19, and 27 are independent claims.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections to the claims for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claims 3, 8, 13, 17, 21, and 24 because of minor informalities. Specifically, the Office Action indicated that the acronyms, “ATM” and “UMTS” in claims 3, 8, 13, 17, 21, and 24 should be defined.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 3, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 21, and 24 to recite the words for which the acronyms “ATM” and “UTMS” represent.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 3, 8, 13, 17, 21, and 24, and respectfully submit that claims 3, 8, 13, 17, 21, and 24 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-23, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Constantinof (U.S. Patent No. 6,822,961) (“Constantinof”). The Office Action indicated that Constantinof discloses every claim feature recited in claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-23, and 26.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-10 are dependent, recites a method. The method includes collecting statistics associated with a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter applied in session resources pertaining to the switching system. The method also includes recording information to a connection cache pertaining to a session resource, if in the statistics the frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with the session resource is high enough to warrant the recording, the information includes the at least one second quality of service parameter value. The method also includes checking in the processing of a session establishment or modification request the connection cache for at least one matching session resource, for which the at least one second quality of service parameter value matches properties required of the session resource. The at least one second quality of service parameter value is among the at least one first quality of service parameter value. The method also

includes using the session resource in the establishment of at least one communication path pertaining to the session establishment or modification request.

Claim 11, upon which claims 12-18 are dependent, recites a system. The system includes means for switching communication paths; means for receiving session establishment or modification requests, and means for collecting statistics on a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter value applied in session resources used by sessions pertaining to the session establishment or modification requests. The system also includes a connection cache for recording information pertaining to the session resource, if in the statistics the frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with the session resource is high enough to warrant the recording, the information includes the at least one second quality of service parameter value. The at least one second quality of service parameter value is among the at least one first quality of service parameter value. The system also includes means for reusing the session resource, the information of which has been stored in the connection cache, in the context of a new session establishment or modification request.

Claim 19, upon which claims 20-26 are dependent, recites a node. The node includes means for receiving session establishment or modification requests, and means for collecting statistics regarding a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter value applied in session resources used by sessions pertaining to the session establishment or modification requests. The node also includes a connection cache for recording information pertaining to the session resources, if in the statistics

the frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with the session resource is high enough to warrant the recording, the information includes the at least one second quality of service parameter value. The at least one second quality of service parameter value is among the at least one first quality of service parameter value. The node also includes means for reusing the session resource, the information of which has been stored in the connection cache, in the context of a new session establishment or modification request.

As will be discussed below, Constantinof fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-23, and 26, and therefore fails to provide the advantages and features discussed above.

Constantinof discloses a method and apparatus for reduction of call setup rate in an ATM network. The method and apparatus are particularly useful in ATM networks used for the transfer of bearer traffic between telephone switching offices. The method involves caching a number of switched virtual circuits (SVCs) between edge interfaces to the ATM network. A cache connection is an emulated circuit between two edge interfaces that is available and idle. The apparatus provides a central policy manager which computers and distributes cache policies to cache managers located in the edge interfaces. The cache managers manage pools of cached SVCs established between two edge interfaces (Constantinof, Abstract; col. 2, line 18 to col. 3, line 56).

The method and apparatus reduces the number of connection setup requests sent to the ATM switches. The advantage is the ability to use ATM switches when have slow

connection setup rates to provide commercially acceptable telephone services in an efficient manner. The method can also be used with fast ATM switches when they become available to balance the use of bandwidth and switch resources to reduce overall cost (*Id.*).

Applicants respectfully submit that Constantinof fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 11 and 19. Specifically, Constantinof fails to disclose or suggest, at least, “collecting statistics associated with a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter applied in session resources pertaining to said switching system; recording information to a connection cache pertaining to a session resource, if in said statistics said frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with said session resource is high enough to warrant said recording, said information comprising said at least one second quality of service parameter value; checking in the processing of a session establishment or modification request said connection cache for at least one matching session resource, for which said at least one second quality of service parameter value matches properties required of said session resource, said at least one second quality of service parameter value being among said at least one first quality of service parameter value” as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 11 and 19.

Constantinof fails to disclose collecting statistics for the purpose of determining what type of session resources in terms of QoS parameters should be cached for the purpose of later use for sessions with similar QoS parameter

requirements. In Constantinof, the quality of service or grade of service parameters are only used for determining when the traffic load in the network of switches is low enough to allow the extra burden of forming new connections to the cache. Constantinof uses quality of service and grade of service interchangeably as a measure of the connection attempts blocked. Thus, Constantinof fails to consider the determination of the frequencies of session resources with a specific QoS parameter value, for example, with a specific bitrate. In Constantinof there is also no determination of a new session request whether there are existing session resources that meet the requirements for the session resources needed for the establishing of the session via the switch.

Accordingly, Constantinof fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-23, and 26.

Claims 2-7 and 9-10 depend from claim 1. Claims 12-16 and 18 depend from claim 11. Claims 20-23 and 26 depend from claim 19. Accordingly, claims 2-7, 9-10, 12-16, 18, 20-23, and 26 should be allowable for at least their dependency upon an allowable base claim, and for the specific limitations recited therein.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-23, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), and respectfully submit that claims 1, 11, and 19, and the claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 8, 17, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable as obvious over Constantinof in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Constantinof was discussed above. As previously noted, Constantinof fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 1, 11, and 19. AAPA fails to cure the deficiencies of AAPA. Specifically, AAPA fails to disclose, or suggest, at least "collecting statistics associated with a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter applied in session resources pertaining to said switching system; recording information to a connection cache pertaining to a session resource, if in said statistics said frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with said session resource is high enough to warrant said recording, said information comprising said at least one second quality of service parameter value; checking in the processing of a session establishment or modification request said connection cache for at least one matching session resource, for which said at least one second quality of service parameter value matches properties required of said session resource, said at least one second quality of service parameter value being among said at least one first quality of service parameter value." Accordingly, Constantinof in view of AAPA fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 1, 11, and 19.

Claim 8 depends from claim 1. Claim 17 depends from claim 11. Claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 19. Accordingly, claims 8, 17, 24, and 25 should be allowable for at least their dependency upon an allowable base claim, and for the specific limitations recited therein.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 8, 17, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), and respectfully submit that claims 1, 11, and 19, and the claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

New Claim 27

New claim 27 has its own scope, but contains recitations similar to those discussed above with regard to claims 1, 11, and 19. Specifically, Constantinof and AAPA, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest, at least, “a resource selector application configured to collect statistics regarding a frequency of use of at least one first quality of service parameter value applied in session resources used by sessions pertaining to said session establishment or modification requests; a connection cache configured to record information pertaining to a session resource, if in said statistics said frequency of use of at least one second quality of service parameter value associated with said session resource is high enough to warrant said recording, said information comprising said at least one second quality of service parameter value, said at least one second quality of service parameter value being among said at least one first quality of service parameter value” as recited in claim 27.

Therefore, claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

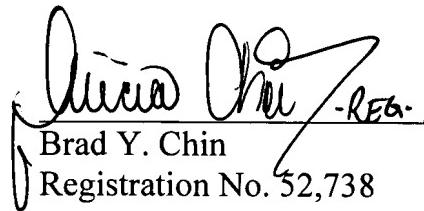
CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that Constantinof and AAPA, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 1-27. The distinctions previously noted are more than sufficient to render the claimed invention unanticipated and unobvious. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-27 be allowed, and this present application passed to issuance.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
Check No. 017320